

importance of the loss—which the owner must sustain, the girl carried the pocket-book with its contents to M. le Noir, Lieutenant of the Police. The magistrate, surprised at such an instance of generosity, asked her who she was? she said she was of a good family whom she had disgraced. M. le Noir, delighted with her openness as well as generosity took her address. The proprietor of the book lost no time in repairing to the magistrate to assist him in the recovery of his property. M. le Noir sent for the girl, and presented her and the book together to the gentleman, relating to him at the same time her behaviour. The gentleman demanded in rapture what reward she would receive for her generosity, and truth? 'The enlargement,' replies she, 'of three of my unfortunate companions, who are now imprisoned in the house of Salpêtrière, for having yielded, like myself, by hard necessity, to the prostitution which they abhor.' This new demonstration of virtue still exalted her in their esteem. Her companions were released, and the gentleman further insisted on her acceptance of a pension of 12,000 livres, with which she declared she would settle in some of the provincial convents, for her family would not receive her.

A SHORT time since a person was dismissed the custom-house, owing to some dispute; and soon after his dismissal he petitioned the board, stating, that if they would replace him, he would point out how a saving of 6000l. per annum might be made, without any injury to the public business. The commissioners pledged themselves to reinstate him, on condition of his proving the allegation set forth in his petition; on which he addressed them as follows: 'Gentlemen, There are nine of you, each receiving a salary of 1000l. per annum; seldom more than three of you attend;—and the business might with care be done by three; therefore my plan is to dismiss six of you, which would be a clear saving of 6000l.'

ONE of the Parisian courtisans, whose name was Paulina, had inspired a young gentleman of some rank, an officer in the army, with so much love, that his parents, fearing lest he should disgrace his family by a disproportionate alliance, solicited and obtained leave to have him shut up. The unfortunate girl no sooner heard of the young soldier's confinement, which she apprehended would last as long as his friends apprehensions should subsist, than she resolved to remove the principal obstacle to his liberty, by making away with herself. Accordingly one evening, with

the utmost composure and resolution, she swallowed a wine-glass full of aquafortis, which put an end to her existence in less than a quarter of an hour. The following letter she intrusted to a friend, charging her not to deliver it to the father of the young gentleman till her corpse had been laid in the grave:

'SIR, Your son did love me—I felt for him a mutual inclination—you feared lest this growing passion should end in his disgrace; and this motive you have deemed sufficient to justify your acting in a more barbarous manner than is perhaps consonant with the character of a parent. I should look upon myself as more cruel than you, were I not to give that beloved man a convincing proof that his happiness has constantly been the sole object of the woman he loved. His confinement must be at an end as soon as you learn that I no longer exist. These are the last lines my hand shall ever trace; and my friend is directed to present them to you with an authentic certificate of my death. You have hastened that period; but I abstain from reproaches. Read this with as much coolness and unconcern as I feel at writing it. Restore your son to freedom; do it generously, and forbear embittering the gift by acquainting him at what price I have purchased it—the fatal tale will reach him but too soon; he will then know how I have punished myself for an attachment which was to endure to this the last day of the unfortunate—PAULINA.'

CARDINAL De RETZ, says, that going once with the Pope to view a very fine statue, his Holiness fixed his attention entirely upon the fringe at the bottom of the robe: from this the Cardinal concluded that the Pope was a poor creature. The remark was shrewd. When you see an ecclesiastic in an high station very zealous and very troublesome about trifles, expect from him nothing great and nothing good.

JOANNES SCOTUS ERIGENA was a man of considerable parts and learning in the ninth century. The Emperor Charles the Bald had a great esteem for him and used to invite him to dinner. As they sat together at table, one on each side, the Emperor said to him, *Quid interest inter Scotum et Satum?* In English—Between a Scot and a Fool? Scotus boldly replied, *Mensa tantum*: and Charles took it not amiss.

THE Popham family were Lords of Burnham in the last century, and we have a tradition among us, that an ancestor of this